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Message Text

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16
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 NIC-01 OMB-01 /099 W
---------- 005035
R 120625Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3515
INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 2722

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, AF, VN, VS
SUBJ: AFGHANISTAN RECOGNIZES "PRG" DE JURE; GVN CALLS IT "A MISTAKE"

REF: A. KABUL 1534 (NOTAL) B. STATE 03083 (NOTAL)
C. SAIGON A-208 OF SEPT. 21, 1973 (NOTAL)

1. REF A REPORTS THAT AFGHANISTAN EXTENDED DE JURE RECOGNITION TO THE SO-CALLED PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM ("PRG") FOLLOWING MARCH 5-7 VISIT TO KABUL BY "PRG" FOREIGN MINISTER MME. NGUYEN THI BINH. RADIO HANOI AND PEKING'S NCNA, BUT NOT THE "PRG" LIBERATION RADIO OR LIBERATION NEWS AGENCY, HAVE REPORTED THIS ON BASIS OF A RADIO KABUL BROADCAST OF MARCH 9. THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF EXCHANGE OF DIPLOMATS.

2. ON BASIS OF COMMUNIST PRESS REPORTS, GVN FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN

SAID MARCH 10 THAT IF REPORTS "PROVED ACCURATE, THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT MADE A MISTAKE BECAUSE SUCH RECOGNITION DOES NO GOOD TO PEACE BUT ONLY STIMULATES THE COMMUNISTS TO STEP UP WAR ACTIVITIES." STATE-MENT FURTHER ARGUED THAT "PRG" IS "NEITHER A GOVERNMENT NOR A STATE."

3. COMMENT: "PRG" HAD PUBLICLY RECOGNIZED AFGHAN REPUBLICAN REGIME
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ON JULY 31, 1973, AND GOA HAD APPARENTLY RECOGNIZED "PRG" DE FACTO

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SINCE THAT TIME. THUS REFS B AND C HAD EARLIER LISTED AFGHANISTAN AMONG COUNTRIES WHICH RECOGNIZE "PRG". CONFUSION IS NOT LIMITED TO OUR SIDE, HOWEVER. LISTS PUBLISHED IN JANUARY 1975 BY NORTH VIETNAMESE EMBASSY IN CANBERRA AND BY "PRG" DELEGATION IN PARIS DISAGREE ON THIS POINT AS WELL. WHILE BOTH SHOW 43 COUNTRIES RECOGNIZING "PRG", THE DRV LISTS AFGHANISTAN AND THE "PRG" LISTS CAMEROON WHILE THE OTHER DOES NOT. (LIBERATION RADIO CLAIMED THAT CAMEROON HAD "DECIDED TO RECOGNIZE THE "PRG" ON OCTOBER 8, 1973; WE HAVE NO OTHER CONFIRMATION.)
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Disposition Authority: buchantr
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Remarks:
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